

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the third paragraph beginning on page 12 with the following amended paragraph:

“While the rod 208 and collar 210 can be used individually to manually feed the strand 30 into the mold, it is possible to use strand feeder rack 56 as shown in Figures 5, 6, 7 and 8 in association with a rod 208 and collar 210 for each strand to be fed. The strand feeder rack 56 is mounted for sliding motion on a track 98 for movement from a position adjacent the strand packs 46 to a position adjacent the near bearing plate 60, as seen in Figures 5 and 6. The strand feeder rack 56 has a stationary arm 150 having a series of slots 54 spaced vertically thereon, each slot 54 designed to receive the end of one of the strands. The ends 96 of each of the strands 30 are placed in the slots 54 while the strand feeder device 56 is in the position adjacent the strand packs 46. A pivoting arm 152 with slots 154 is pivoted to the stationary arm 150 at one end thereof. As the strand ends 96 are inserted in the slots 54, the arm 152 is pivoted out of the way. Once the strand ends 96 are in the slots 54, the arm 152 is pivoted through positions 156A-E to capture the strand ends 96 in a wedging action between slots 54 and 154. The pivoting arm 152 is held in the wedging position 156E with a locking mechanism ~~158~~.”

Please replace the third paragraph beginning on page 17 with the following amended paragraph:

“However, in another procedure, to assist in the operation, the strand feeder rack 56 can be used and is mounted for sliding motion on track 98 for movement from a position adjacent the strand reel 10 to a position adjacent the bearing plate 60, as seen in Figures 5 and 6. The ends 96 of each of the strand segments in the strand reel 10 are unclipped and freed from the strand reel 10 and then unwound from the strand reel 10 while the reel is stationary, one strand at a time. Typically 1 1/6 turn of each stand will be unwound. As the ends 96 are unwound, the ends 96 are placed in the slots 54 while the strand feeder device 56 is in the position adjacent the strand reel 10. As the strand ends 96 are inserted in the slots 54, the arm 152 is pivoted out of the way. Once the strand ends 96 are in the slots 54, the arm 152 is pivoted through positions 156A-E to capture and clamp the strand ends 96 in a wedging action between slots 54 and 154. The pivoting arm 152 is held in the wedging position 156E with a locking mechanism ~~158~~. The rods 208 are inserted into the bearing plates and bulkheads as seen in step one of Figure 1C. The strand feeder rack 56 is then slid along the track 98 proximate the near bearing plate 60 and collars 210. ~~The rod rods 208 and collars 210 for each strand~~ the strands 96 can then be pulled out of the mold sufficiently for the collars to then be fit over the ends 96 of the strands 30, as seen in step two of Figure 1C. The strands 30 can then be freed from the strand feeder rack and the strands 30, and associated rods 208 and collars 210 pushed through the mold as in steps three, four and five of Figure 1C. The strand reel 10 will rotate on the stand 48 and pay out additional lengths of the strand segments as the strands are fed into the mold.”

Please replace the Abstract on page 23 with the following amended paragraph: